



P24131.A01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Izuru NAKAI et al.

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Appln No : 09/881,769

Examiner: Unknown

Filed : June 18, 2001

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LASER DRILLING

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir :

RECEIVED
SEP 24 2001
TC 1700

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97-1.98,

Applicants hereby call the following information to the Examiner's attention:

U.S. Patent No. 5,969,335 to KARASAKI, issued October 19, 1999.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the patent document. A copy of the above-noted patent document, together with a copy of a PTO-1449 Form listing this document, is included for that purpose.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initial the appropriate space on the attached PTO-1449 form to confirm consideration of this document and to return a signed copy of the PTO-1449 form to the Applicants together with the next Official Action in the present application.

P21131.A01

Applicants also bring to the Examiner's attention the following copending and commonly assigned patent application:

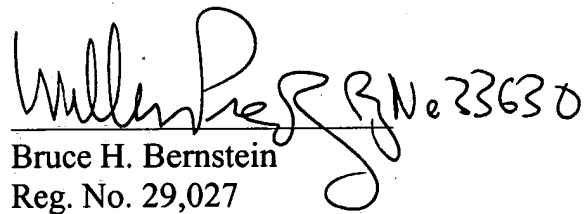
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/892,651 to NAKAI et al., entitled "Laser Processing Apparatus and Method", filed on June 28, 2001.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of the above-mentioned application is attached hereto. However, the Examiner is requested to review the file wrapper of this U.S. patent application at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the reference of record, if any, cited therein.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not yet issued in the instant application, and thus, no fee is required to ensure consideration of this document.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Izuru NAKAI et al.

 R.N. 23630
Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

September 19, 2001
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1941 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191